

REMARKS

Claims 17-52 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-16 were previously canceled. Claims 17, 19, 32, 47 and 50 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 17, 18, 20, 26, 27, 32, 33, 35, 41, 42, 46 and 50 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Russell, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,526,407, hereinafter, "Russell"), claims 19 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of Welch, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,336,421, hereinafter, "Welch"), claims 21-23, 30, 36-38, 45, 48 and 51 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of Freudberg, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,696,031, hereinafter, "Freudberg"), claims 24, 25, 31, 39, 40, 46, 49 and 52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of Imai, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0010037 A1, hereinafter, "Imai"), claims 28, 29, 43 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Russell in view of Gan, *et al.* (IEEE Publication, "Implementation of Silence Compression Scheme for G.723.1 Speech Coder Using TI TMS320C51 DSP Chip", 1997, hereinafter, "Gan"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 17, as amended, specifically recites "(a) receiving an analog audio signal *played at an increased speed* and containing audio information and signal pause information, ..., (c) storing the audio information data of the digital audio signal as information data blocks and the signal pause duration data of the digital audio signal as signal pause data blocks having different time durations in a memory, wherein the audio information data and the signal pause duration data represent *outputs at a normal*

speaking speed." Russell does not teach or suggest receiving an analog audio signal played at an increased speed and storing audio information data and signal pause duration data outputs at a normal speaking speed. Neither Russell nor any other reference of record discloses the claimed limitations. Hence, independent claim 17 is allowable.

Claims 18-31 depend from claim 17 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Claim 32, as amended, specifically recites "(a) receiving an analog audio signal *played at an increased speed* and containing audio information and signal pauses, ..., (c) storing the converted digital audio data, such that the converted digital audio data *represents an output at a normal speaking speed.*" Russell does not teach or suggest receiving an audio signal played at an increased speed and storing the converted digital audio data, such that the converted digital audio data represents an output at a normal speaking speed. Neither Russell nor any other reference of record discloses the claimed limitations. Hence, independent claim 32 is allowable.

Claims 33-46 depend from claim 32 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Claim 47, as amended, specifically recites "converting the analog audio signal *played at an increased speed* into digital audio data having audio information data and signal pause duration data, storing the audio information data as information data blocks in a memory, wherein the audio information data represents an *output at a normal speaking speed*; storing the signal pause duration data as signal pause data blocks in the

memory, wherein the signal pause duration data represents an *output at a normal speaking speed.*” Russell does not teach or suggest converting the analog audio signal played at an increased speed, storing audio information data wherein the audio information data represents an output at a normal speaking speed, and storing signal pause duration data wherein the signal pause duration data represents an output at a normal speaking speed. Neither Russell nor any other reference of record discloses the claimed limitations. Hence, independent claim 47 is allowable.

Claims 48 and 49 depend from claim 47 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Claim 50, as amended, specifically recites “an analog-to-digital converter for converting the analog audio signal *played at an increased speed* into digital audio data having audio information data and signal pause duration data, a memory configured to store audio information data of the digital audio data in information data blocks and to store signal pause duration data of the digital audio data in signal pause data blocks, wherein the audio information data and the signal pause duration data represent outputs at *a normal speaking speed.*” Russell does not teach or suggest an analog-to-digital converter converting audio signal played at an increased speed and a memory configured to store audio information and signal pause duration data wherein the audio information data and the signal pause duration data represent outputs at a normal speaking speed. Neither Russell nor any other reference of record discloses the claimed limitations. Hence, independent claim 50 is allowable.


Claims 51 and 52 depend from claim 50 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that this response complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Applicant further submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added by this amendment. If the Examiner should have any questions, please contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

4/6/09

Date

Respectfully submitted,



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